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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Date: March 27, 2002

Deborah A. Min
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEPATENT

Applicant(s):	Odegard, et al.	Docket No.:	40655.2600
Serial No.:	09/974,613	Group Art Unit:	2161
Filed:	October 10, 2001	Examiner:	TBA
Title:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR A FINANCIAL PLANNING COMPETITION	Confirmation No.:	8447

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Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Assistant Commissioner:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R., §§1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. One copy of each cited document is submitted herewith. Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are patentable over the foregoing references, alone or in combination. The Examiner is requested to initial the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A and return a copy thereof to the undersigned.

The items listed on Form PTO/SB/08A may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application.

Applicants reserve the right to dispute any of the listed documents as prior art during examination. Further, Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application. Furthermore, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information may exist.

1. ☐ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
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2. ☐ Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior ☐ Continuation, ☐ Divisional or ☐ Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. _____, filed _____.

3. ☒ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.

4. ☐ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 3 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 8 below.

5. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 3 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- ☐ Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.
6. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 8 below; and
 - b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
 - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 9 below.
7. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
- a. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;
 - b. ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.
 - c. The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 9 below.
8. ☐ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

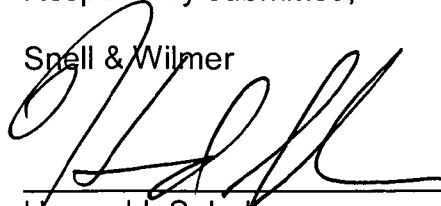
9. ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

☐ Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

☒ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2814. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

Snell & Wilmer



Howard I. Sobelman
Registration No. 39,038

Dated: March 27, 2002

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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Complete if Known

Application Number	09/974,613
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Filing Date	October 10, 2001
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First Named Inventor	Laura J. Odegaard
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Art Unit

Examiner Name	TBA
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Attorney Docket Number	40655.2600
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code (if known) ²			
		US- 4,767,335		08-30-1988	Curt	
		US- 5,108,115		04-28-1992	Berman et al.	
		US- 5,616,033		04-01-1997	Kerwin	
		US- 5,727,950		03-17-1998	Cook et al.	
		US- 6,029,159		02-22-2000	Zorba et al.	
		US- 6,062,862		05-16-2000	Koskinen	
		US- 6,064,998		05-16-2000	Zabloudil et al.	
		US- 6,106,300		08-22-2000	Kiyosaki et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner
Signature

/Clement Graham/

Date
Considered

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**

/C.G./